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**PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT**

**NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER**

**NEW ASW AMPHIBIAN AIRCRAFT
AT HA-ERH-PIN AIRFRAME
PLANT PING-FANG 122, CHINA**

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**NEW ASW AMPHIBIAN AIRCRAFT AT HA-ERH-PIN AIRFRAME PLANT PING-FANG 122,
CHINA**

1. A new antisubmarine warfare (ASW) amphibian aircraft was identified at the Ha-erh-pin Airframe Plant Ping-fang 122 [REDACTED] A new installation, the Ching-men Possible Aircraft Plant [REDACTED] may be associated with the development of this new aircraft.

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2. The new ASW amphibian aircraft (Figures 1 and 2) was seen for the first time at the Ha-erh-pin plant [REDACTED] Because of the limited interpretability of that photography, it was reported then to be a new Chinese transport-type aircraft. The high-mounted straight wing [REDACTED] It tapers slightly on the leading edge with a more pronounced taper on the trailing edge. The wing has a root chord [REDACTED]

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3. The aircraft is powered by four turboprop engines. The nacelle of each engine [REDACTED]

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4. The fuselage [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] At the trailing edge of the wing, the fuselage tapers [REDACTED] at the leading edge of the horizontal stabilizer. The distance from nose of the aircraft to the leading edge of the wing [REDACTED]

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5. The horizontal stabilizer is mounted high on the aft section of the fuselage and has a significant amount of positive dihedral. The twin vertical stabilizers have a span separation of 35 feet and are positioned on the outer tips of the horizontal stabilizer. The root chord of the horizontal stabilizer [REDACTED]

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6. A magnetic anomaly detection (MAD) boom extends from the rear of the fuselage. This tapering boom [REDACTED] immediately aft of the horizontal stabilizer. The presence of the MAD boom enhances the ASW capability of the aircraft.

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7. The appearance of this aircraft at the Ha-erh-pin Airframe plant was the first photographic indication that the Chinese were developing an indigenous ASW amphibian aircraft. Currently, China's seaplane inventory is limited to six outmoded MADGE (BE-6), received from the Soviets in the late 1950s.

8. The new possible aircraft plant, built near a large lake in a remote section of Hupeh Province, south China, may be associated with the development of the ASW amphibian aircraft (Figure 3). The construction timeframe, the facilities, and the location near a lake strongly suggest this association. The Ching-men Possible Aircraft Plant is approximately 1,200 nautical miles (nm) from Ha-erh-pin and 475 nm from the coast.

9. A large concrete ramp and taxiway is nearly complete at Ching-men. The ramp extends approximately 3,000 feet from the water at the lake edge to a large hangar. This hangar, which is externally complete, is large enough to accommodate an aircraft as large as the new ASW amphibian.

10. The Ching-men installation has been under construction since September 1971. With the exception of the large hangar and parking aprons, its facilities consist primarily of housing and general support structures. The installation lacks the buildings normally associated with a complete aircraft production plant.

REFERENCES

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REQUIREMENT

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